

Glory Uncovered

1. **Jesus Hides His Glory to Save Us**
2. **Jesus Uncovers His Glory to Sustain Us**

- This Epiph season we've following theme: uncovered. J been revealing truths re kngdm/God that need be uncovered for us bec cannot be discovered by us. Kind like beautfl painting hangng on wall that's covred w/sheet & hidden fr view: God's truth remains hidden fr us, until J comes, pulls down sheet, reveals painting, uncovrs unxpctd truths. Think re what seen this season: J reveald as Son/God at bap; J's glory reveald in 1st mrcel (wtr/wine); seen unxpctd msgrs; heard unxpctd msgs, re lovng enemies & findng blessngs even in curses. But today season/Epiph concluds/culmnts in one incrdbl mnttop event, the big reveal: trnsfg/J. Today's Gos reveals for us what hapnd that day, and why it hapnd, when J pulled down sheet & reveald brilliance of his hvnlly glory. Today we see glory uncovered.
- And here's how hapnd: J takes inner circle, PJJ (Jairus' dgthr; Gthsmn); up mnt. And vs. 29a (Mt & Mk: trnsfgd); 29b (Mt: face shown like sun, clothes became white as light. Mk: clothes became whiter than anyone in wrld could bleach). So you have this blndng brightnss fr hvn piercng thru opaque fog of this wrld. And J, for momnt, ceases look like mortal man; instd, like hvnlly being. Then sudly, M&E are there, in flesh, standing w/J, all 3 shinng in hvnlly splndr – M: great lawgvr w/J, redeemr fr curse of law; E: great prchr/prpht, w/J, perf prpht. And if all this not ovrwhlmng enough for PJJ, then a cloud covers mnttop envlpng them, just like cloud/presnc/Lord used envelop tabncl. And once again, hvn touches earth. And Lord speaks: vs. 35b. And as that booming voice echoes over mnttop: cloud lifts, brghtnss dissolves, patriarchs disappear, and J is as he was before.
- Now, lot we could say re this spectaclr vision, this brilliant glory, when J pulls down sheet, uncovers what he really looks like. But first we need realize: this is only time J does this. Thruout earthly min, fr birth to asc, J never does this; never shines in his hvnlly glory, besides here. Angels do. At birth, angels filled sky, **“glory/Lord shone around them” (Lk 2:9)**. At res, 2 angels at tomb **“in clothes that gleamd like lightng” (24:4)**. And at asc, 2 angels **“dressed in white” (Ac 1:10)**. Even Moses, when came down fr Mt. Sinai, was shining in hvnlly glory. But never J, not even after res; maybe in a vision in bk/Rev, but never during life on earth. This is only time J pulls back veil.
- Which leads me ask 2 basic Qs. 1st: Why J hide glory? If what we see on mt/trnsfg is what J really looks like, then why for most/life does J hide it? Why cover it up, so we can't see it? Why not let glory shine little more often? Think re when J rejected at Naz: if pulled back veil, revealed glory, never try throw cliff. Or think all times Phars harassed, or when soldiers crcfd. If J'd let glory shine thru, they never would've messed w/him. So why does J normally hide his glory?
- Here's why: J hides glory in order save us. J knew, to be our Sav, had hide glory. We call it J's state humil: when J chose not make full use glory but instd kept conceald. Think: here's God hvn/earth: concvd in womb lowly cntry girl; goes thru chldbrth/hood like any ord kid; thruout life nvr uses almgthy pwr for own advntg, but always/only to help others. Then bears our pnshtnt for our sins by dying terrbl dth/cross. When you look at J on cross, he doesn't look like kng/creation; looks like an ord crimnl, bec J hiding glory. But J knew: cross was necsry save us. And J wants be our Sav; wants be known as the God who loves us so much that he willingly laid down life to save us. In fact, that's very thing M&E talking to J re on mnt. Vs. 31. So here they are, shining in hvnlly glory, talking re glory/cross. And may sound weird talk re glory/cross. But J consdrs his death on cross to be his real glory – so much so that he even says re cross: **“Now the Son/Man is glorfd, and God is glorfd in him” (Jn 13:31)**; and **“Fr, the hr has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you” (17:1)**. That's the glory/cross. And that's why J so often hides his bright, hvnlly glory behind darker glory/cross. He hides his glory in order to die for us and save us.
- So if that's why J hides his glory, then my 2nd Q: Why be trnsfgd? Why do this in 1st place? What's reason for pulling back sheet & uncovring this glimpse/glory? What's purpose of trnsfg? I bel reason J here uncovers glory: to sustain us, in our faith. 1 wk before trnsfg, in section imdtly before Gos, J

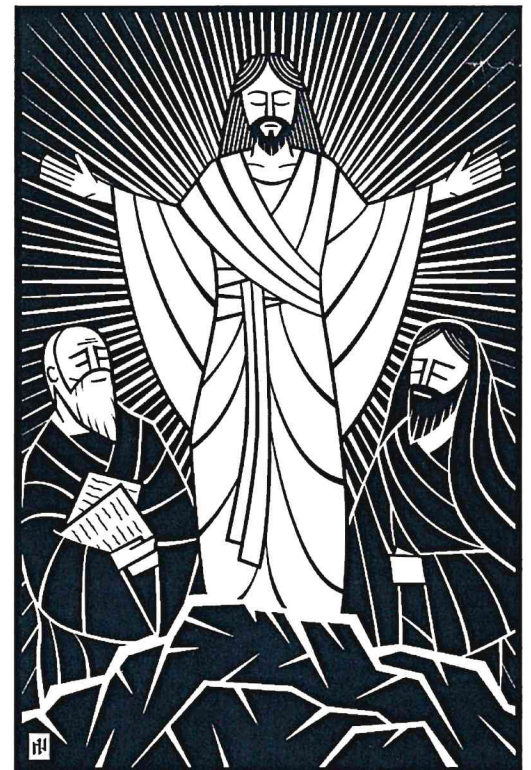
tells discs 2 diffcult things: 1) **“The Son/Man must suffer many thngs and be rejctd by elders, chf prsts, & tchrs/law, and he must be killed;”** 2) **“Whoever wants be my disc must deny selves and take up their cross daily and follow me”** (Lk 9:22-23). So bascly, J: I have cross to bear, and so do you. That: hard msg hear! Have undrstnd: crucfxn was disgstng/horrfyng way die. So for J to casually mention cross-bearing, for himself and all follwrs, would’ve been very soberng/silencng for discs.

- So reason J trnsfgrd apprc & showd them glory: sustain in faith. See: Xian follows J on same path J walks: 1st cross, then glory. We all have crosses must bear as Xians before seeing glory/hvn; & these crosses: heavy/painfl. And so to strngthn/supprt/sustain us for the Lenten season our lives, J gives us this glmps/glory, this momntry vision of what hvn’ll be like. J wants us see this. Wantd PJJ see this, bec they needed this. They: about see J literly crucfd; and they had heavy crosses they’d soon bear as first ldrs of ch. So they needed this vision; and we too, to sustain us for diffcult days that lie ahead.
- Here’s comprsn I’ve thought re often. Remem last wk, heard re Joe in Egypt, how forgave bros? God put Joe in charge in Egypt to save lives during terrible drought: 7 yrs plenty to store up grain; then 7 yrs famine to carefully distribute. Trnsfg is like your 7 yrs plenty. You’ve got: take this momnt in, tuck away in hrt; let this beautfl, glorious vision sink deep into soul. Store it up now, bec yrs/famine, days cross-bearing, are coming. Or maybe you’re living those diffcult days right now. So how you going have strength get thru your life’s Lenten season? In order sustain us in faith, today J uncovers his glory. In his transfig, J shows us what he actly looks like, and what hvn’ll be like, to comfort us & encourage us. This is what sustained J, as he prepared for his cross & res. And this is what’ll sustain you, as well, until Lord brings you fr your Lent to your Easter.
- So hold onto this vision, this trnsfg glory. It lasts only momnt. **Vs. 36a.** As quickly as the sheet was pulled and the big reveal uncovered, so quickly was that glory covered up again. So hold onto this momnt, when glory is uncovered. Normally J hides glory, to save us. But today on mt/trnsfg, J uncovers his glory, to sustain us.

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.



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